

Terry Swinger

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MISSOURI
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

January 31, 2012

The Honorable Julius Genachowski
Chairman, Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St. S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Mr. Chairman,

As you are well aware, rural America needs every tool at their disposal to compete in a global economy. This is true for our farmers, who not only rely on GPS devices to maximize yields but also rely on high-speed Internet access to effectively run their operations.

I continue to be frustrated that news reports imply that rural families must choose between a new wireless broadband network from a company called LightSquared and using GPS devices for farming. Why should they have to choose? Why can't farming families have both high-speed wireless broadband for smartphones and tablet computers and utilize precision GPS?

I understand some testing between the two technologies has taken place. However, it seems that more questions than answers have emerged from some of that testing.

It is time to resolve any interference controversy and move forward with both LightSquared's network and GPS for our country. I want to encourage the Federal Communications Commission to conduct its own, un-biased and transparent testing of the new network to see if real interference exists with GPS. If it does exist, fix it. If it doesn't, let's move forward. Don't make my constituents choose—they deserve both technologies as they compete in our country and abroad.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Terry Swinger". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Terry Swinger
Missouri State Representative
District 162

Cc: Senator Roy Blunt
Senator Claire McCaskill
Representative Jo Ann Emerson
Assistant Secretary Lawrence E. Strickling, NTIA